

Journey through Seneca's GEA Program

Published 10/24/2023 by [Elaine Simionato Hayashi](#)

When I first set foot in Canada, I came bearing an old degree and a background quite different from what I was used to seeing around me. The allure of acquiring a Canadian degree brought me to Seneca's General Arts – English for Academic Purposes (GEA) program. I saw it as a platform to bridge the gap between my experiences and my desired future in this new land.

My time at Seneca was transformative. The GEA program wasn't just a stepping stone; it was the open door that led me to the Honour Bachelor of Data Science and Analytics. This journey was made memorable not only because of the vibrant academic environment, but also due to the incredible individuals I met along the way. The cooperative and resourceful people in the GEA program connected dots for me that I didn't even know existed. They played a pivotal role in shaping my pathway, ensuring I never felt like an outsider. The essence of Seneca for me is encapsulated in this beautiful realization – that amidst the diversity, we are all fundamentally the same.

One of the most poignant memories I carry from Seneca is the amalgamation of joy, profound knowledge, burgeoning confidence, and enriching communication. It wasn't just about classroom learning. It was an immersion into the Canadian system, an opportunity to understand the Canadian ethos, and how people here think, live, and engage. What makes these memories even more special is the enduring bond I've forged with my professors from the GEA program – relationships that have now blossomed into sincere friendships.

Looking ahead, the world seems full of endless possibilities. With my degree incorporating a coop program, I'm on the cusp of stepping into the professional world, eager to gain the experience that will pave the way for further academic pursuits, particularly a Master's degree.

For anyone considering or starting the GEA program, my advice is simple: Dive in wholeheartedly. Engage with the Seneca team, build rapport with your professors, and never shy away from seeking feedback. Remember, growth often lies in the feedback loop. Always be open to improvement, and when challenges arise, as they inevitably will, reach out. The Seneca community is a safety net, always ready to catch you and guide you forward. During my time there, they didn't just have my back; they held my hand and walked with me, every step of the way.

Warm Regards
Mohamad Meaari

To learn more about GEA program, please visit [General Arts - English for Academic Purposes](#).